

**OFFICE OF THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Government Center  
143 N. Main Street  
Warsaw, NY 14569



**Rebecca J. Ryan, Chairwoman**  
Board of Supervisors

Phone 585-786-8800  
Fax 585-786-8802

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**November 18, 2020 @ 2:00 p.m.**

**Wyoming County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman, Rebecca J. Ryan**, as of earlier today, Wednesday, November 18, 2020, the Wyoming County Health Department reports three hundred thirty-one (331) lab-confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 among Wyoming County residents. This is an increase of ten (10) cases from the last reported increase on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

| Quadrant  | Positive Cases | Mandatory Isolation (ACTIVE) |
|---|----------------|------------------------------|
| Northwest (Attica, Bennington, Orangeville, Sheldon)  | 99             | 18                           |
| Southwest (Arcade, Eagle, Java, Wethersfield)         | 64             | 8                            |
| Southeast (Castile, Gainesville, Genesee Falls, Pike) | 46             | 5                            |
| Northeast (Covington, Middlebury, Perry, Warsaw)      | 122            | 22                           |
| <b>Total Community</b>                                | <b>331</b>     |                              |
| <b>**DOCCS</b>  | <b>42</b>      |                              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>373</b>     | <b>53</b>                    |

*\*\*The Health Department received notification of a testing initiative by the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) at state correctional facilities, including Attica and Wyoming Correctional Facilities. As of this morning, forty-two inmates have tested positive for COVID-19 at state correctional facilities in Wyoming County. These positive cases are being managed by DOCCS; a cumulative total of DOCCS cases will be added to future reports, see above.*

| County  | # of Positive | # of Negative | Mandatory Isolation | Mandatory Quarantine | Precautionary Quarantine (Traveler) | # Deaths | # Recovered |
|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Wyoming | 331           | *28,618       | 53                  | 221                  | 28                                  | 5        | 273         |

*\*From the NYS Department of Health COVID-19 Tracker Report, not de-duplicated*

| Cumulative Age Breakdown |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |     |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| Age                      | 0-20 | 20's | 30's | 40's | 50's | 60's | 70's | 80's | 90+ |
| <b>Wyoming</b>           | 39   | 60   | 36   | 50   | 61   | 45   | 26   | 11   | 3   |

**New Information:**

**Celebrating Thanksgiving**

Traditional Thanksgiving gatherings with family and friends are fun but can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu. Follow these tips to make your Thanksgiving holiday safer. The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is to celebrate with people in your household. If you do plan to spend Thanksgiving with people outside your household, take steps to make your celebration safer.

**Wear a mask**

\*Wear a mask with two or more layers to stop the spread of COVID-19.

\*Wear the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.

\*Make sure the mask fits snugly against the sides of your face.

### **Stay at least 6 feet away from others who do not live with you**

\*Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread COVID-19 or flu.

\*Keeping 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

### **Wash your hands**

\*Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

\*Keep hand sanitizer with you and use it when you are unable to wash your hands.

\*Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

### **Attending a Gathering**

Make your celebration safer. In addition to following the steps that everyone can take to make Thanksgiving safer, take these additional steps while attending a Thanksgiving gathering.

\*Bring your own food, drinks, plates, cups, and utensils.

\*Wear a mask, and safely store your mask while eating and drinking.

\*Avoid going in and out of the areas where food is being prepared or handled, such as in the kitchen.

\*Use single-use options, like salad dressing and condiment packets, and disposable items like food containers, plates and utensils.

### **Hosting a Thanksgiving Gathering**

If having guests to your home, be sure that people follow the steps that everyone can take to make Thanksgiving safer. Other steps you can take include:

\*Limit the number of guests

\*Have conversations with guests ahead of time to set expectations for celebrating together.

\*Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items between use.

\*Make sure to open windows while celebrating indoors

\*Limit the number of people in food preparation areas

\*Have guests bring their own food and drink

\*If sharing food, have one person serve food and use single-use options, like plastic utensils.

### ***What You Need to Know (from the NYS Department of Health), 11/13/2020***

\*Effective November 13 at 10 p.m., bars, restaurants and gyms, as well as any State Liquor Authority-licensed establishment, must close in-person service from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. daily.

\*Effective November 13 at 10 p.m., indoor and outdoor gatherings at private residences will be limited to no more than 10 people.

- A new [Cluster Action Initiative](#) will address COVID-19 hot spots that have cropped up across the state; Wyoming County is not a current hotspot/does not have any cluster zones.
- New travel guidelines allowing out-of-state travelers to “test out” of the mandatory 14-day quarantine will be in effect beginning November 4. [Find out more information here.](#)
- Based on each region's infection rate, schools across New York State can be open but must have a testing and tracing plan; a [COVID Report Card](#) hosted by the NYS Department of Health will show COVID-19 positive case data for every school district in the state.
- Ski resorts can reopen with 50 percent indoor capacity and with strict health and safety protocols under state-issued guidance starting Friday, November 6.
- To report violations of health and safety restrictions and requirements for businesses, gatherings and individuals, please choose the appropriate link below:
  - [File a complaint about a business, location or incident in your community.](#)

- [\*File a complaint against your employer or place of work.\*](#)
- Go to [forward.ny.gov](http://forward.ny.gov) to find: Industry guidance on re-opening; regional dashboards for monitoring how the virus is being contained; and information on loans for small businesses.
- New Yorkers without health insurance can apply through [\*NY State of Health\*](#) or call the Wyoming County Health Department at 786-8890 through 12/31/20; you should apply within 60 days of losing coverage.
- Health care workers can text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741 to access 24/7 emotional support services.
- Any New Yorker can call the COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline at **1-844-863-9314** for mental health counseling.
- The Wyoming County Crisis Line is available 24 hours a day / 7 days a week at 283-5200.
- The NYS Department of Health collects, compiles, and analyzes information on flu activity year-round in New York, and produces a weekly report during the flu season (October through the following May).  
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/influenza/surveillance/>
- You can find this and additional information on the county website at <http://www.wyomingco.net/> under the **County News** heading by clicking on ***Wyoming County Press Releases (COVID-19), Genesee-Orleans-Wyoming Health Departments COVID-19 Case Tracker and/or COVID-19 Information*** or by clicking on one of the following links:
  - ***Reporting Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):***  
<http://www.wyomingco.net/DocumentCenter/View/3804/COVID-19-Tracker-Reporting-FAQ?bidId=>
  - ***Genesee Orleans Wyoming County Health Departments COVID-19 Case Tracker:***  
<https://cogeneseeny.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/045c599586864bfb9b8361fff2ac3bd3>

***How can I get a COVID test in Wyoming County?***

Symptoms consistent with COVID are similar to those of other illnesses, including influenza. It is especially important to get a flu shot this year, to reduce the possibility of co-infection with COVID and seasonal influenza. Some people with COVID-19 exhibit no symptoms at all but can still transmit the illness to others, so residents are reminded to avoid non-essential gatherings where possible to reduce the potential risks associated with congregate settings where attendees may not be wearing face coverings or maintaining social distance. Talk in advance with friends and family about how to plan for a safe holiday season and if you're sick, please stay home to protect those most vulnerable to serious illness.

General questions about COVID response and local resources can call the Wyoming County Response Line at 786-8911.

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Wyoming County Board of Supervisors**